

Sutter County Resource Conservation District

1511-B Butte House Road - Yuba City, CA 95991 - (916) 674-1461
CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

JUN 1 2 1998

June 11, 1998

Dear Mr. Rick Breitenbach:

Water quantity and quality, levees, channels and dams are very important issues in our area. CALFED should be commended for their attempt to bring all stakeholders together to address these issues. It will take the knowledge that each community has about their area to make one plan that will work.

The first priority is to make sure that any of the alternatives do not increase the potential of flooding in our area. We need our levees fixed. Water cannot be shipped anywhere with the conditions our levees are in. I like the idea of setting the levees back in places.

Sutter County has a large agricultural base. Taking water away from this industry, or taking land out of production is a great concern in our area. The plan needs to decrease the amount of land that would be taken out of Agricultural production. We have to have better water management in the way our Dams are managed. To much water is held in them and this causes problems for us in terms of flooding and loss of agriculture. We should not pump ground water. This causes many problems with the aquifer. People sell their groundwater then use the water out of the river. This decreases the amount of water available to everyone. Sutter County also has a problem with salt. Pumping underground water could bring salt to the top of the ground.

Environmental issues are also important. Sutter County has a lot of recreation based business. We have fishing, boating, hunting and other activities that take place year round along our water ways. Planting vegetation in the correct places within the levee system and making sure it is maintained is essential. Fish screens to keep the fish out of pumps, and knowing where the fish spawn and protecting or restoring these areas is also a concern. We need to make sure the Delta is fixed. Shipping water further south to help people in southern California is the least of our concern.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR.

Sincerely Yours,

Rosemary Pierce

Vice Chair/Secretary

Sutter County RCD

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